

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality

3b. GSA Committee No.

769

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

09/30/2017

6. Expected Renewal Date

09/30/2019

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

42 U.S.C. 217a

13. Effective Date

11/17/1962

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

17b. Closed Meetings and Dates

0

17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total Meetings and Dates

0

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$94,213.00	\$96,038.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$24,000.00	\$28,000.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00
18d. Total	\$214,213.00	\$220,038.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.65	0.65

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Committee did not convene any meetings in FY2018 because it could not meet a quorum due to committee membership terms expiring and delay in approval of new voting members due to the Federal hiring freeze. The Committee is comprised of both voting members and non-voting ex-officio members. Without the approval of the new voting member nomination package, a quorum could not be met. The Committee will meet in FY2019 - regardless of quorum status. Also in FY2019, another new member nomination package will be submitted that should result in more members being appointed to the Committee.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Committee consists of the Assistant Secretary for Health; the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families; the Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; a senior representative from the Department of Education; the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Reproductive Health; a senior representative from the Department of Housing and Urban Development; a senior representative from the Department of Labor; the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Center for Primary Care, Prevention, and Clinical Partnerships; the Assistant Secretary for Food and Consumer Services, the United States Department of Agriculture; any appropriately qualified representative of the Department of Health and Human Services or other Agencies of the Federal Government designated by the Secretary as ex-officio members; and 21 members, including the Chair, selected by the Secretary. Members are representatives of both the public and private sectors. Members from the private sector represent corporations and foundations, the clergy, consumers, health and other professional organizations, health plans, and employers. Members from the public sector include elected officials and health and human services administrators from the State and local levels including representatives of minority, rural, and urban interests.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Meetings are typically held two times per Fiscal Year. Committee meetings are necessary to generate new ideas to maintain progress on reducing infant deaths and disparities in infant mortality. This is addressed through the activities and efforts of a number of workgroups (that are formed on an ad hoc basis), and the discussion of new policies and scientific findings pertaining to maternal and infant health. In addition, the Committee will continue to monitor and review the Healthy Start program and its evaluation, as well as Healthy People 2020 objectives. Work will continue to operationalize the national infant mortality reduction strategies.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

This Committee is necessary to provide the HHS with ongoing counsel and advice from a broad range of public and private sector expertise not available within HHS. The work of the Committee is especially important in light of the continued rise in preterm births, a major contributor to infant mortality.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A - ACIM meetings are open to the public

21. Remarks

Recommendations have been shared with the Secretary and HRSA Administrator, and can be found in items 20a, and performance measures. No reports for FY2018. The Committee's Executive Secretary - which is the HRSA Associate Administrator for MCHB.

Designated Federal Officer

David S. de la Cruz Deputy Director, DHSPS / Principal Staff and DFO, Secretary's Adv Com. on Infant Mortality & HRSA Assoc Adm

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ashford, Ronald	01/01/2015		US Department of Housing and Urban Development	Ex Officio Member Special Government Employee (SGE)
Ashton, Diane	09/30/2014	06/30/2018	OB/GYN	Member
Barfield, Wanda	01/01/2015		Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Ex Officio Member
Bianchi, Diana	01/17/2018		Eunice Kennedy Shriver National, Institute of Child Health and Human Development	Ex Officio Member
Bianchi, Elizabeth	09/30/2014	06/30/2018	Family/Parent representative	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Conry, Jeanne	01/17/2018	06/15/2022	OB/GYN, Preconception Care, Quality & Safety, Guideline Development	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
DeCoursey, Wendy	01/01/2015		Administration for Children and Families	Ex Officio Member
Drummonds, Mario	09/30/2014	06/30/2018	Healthy Start Project Director, child welfare, public policy development	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Ehlinger, Edward	01/17/2018	06/15/2022	U School ogf Public Health	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Ely, Danielle	01/17/2018		Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC	Ex Officio Member
England, Suzanne	01/17/2018		Great Plains Area Indian Health Service, Great Plains Area Women's Health Consultant	Ex Officio Member
Esquith, David	01/01/2016		Director of the Office of Safe and Healthy Students, Dept of Education	Ex Officio Member
Greene, Nicole	01/01/2016		DHHS Primary Advisor to the Deputy Assistant and Deputy Director, Office of Women's Health	Ex Officio Member

Hogan, Vijaya	01/17/2018 06/15/2022	Planning, Research & Evaluation, National Foundation, Global Health, Health Inequities	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
James, Arthur	09/30/2014 06/30/2018	OB/GYN	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jarris, Paul	01/17/2018 07/06/2022	Healthcare Policy, Program Impact, Perterm Birth, Clinical Quality Initiatives	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jimenez, Carol	01/01/2016	Deputy Director, DHHS Office of Minority Health	Ex Officio Member
Kesner, Paul	01/01/2018	Director of the Office of Safe and Healthy Students, Dept of Education	Ex Officio Member
Lillie Blanton, Marsha	01/01/2011 04/30/2018	Director, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, CMS	Ex Officio Member
Lin, Matthew	01/17/2018 12/31/2018	DHHS, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health and Director, Office of Minority Health	Ex Officio Member
Lipps, Brandon	01/17/2018	Food and Nutrition Service, USDA	Ex Officio Member
Mabry-Hernandez, Iris	01/01/2015	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	Ex Officio Member
Malloy, Colleen	01/17/2018 07/25/2022	Pediatrics, Hospital Based Medicine, Neonatology, Perinatal Environment	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Matsuoka, Karen	09/01/2018	Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services	Ex Officio Member
Matthews, Thomas	01/01/2016 01/01/2019	Div of Vital Statistics, Natl Ctr for Hlth Statistics, CDC	Ex Officio Member
Moore, Cynthia	01/17/2018	National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Director, Division of BDDD, CDC	Ex Officio Member
Moos, Merry	09/30/2014 06/30/2018	Professor, Dept of OB/GYN, Div of Maternal-Fetal Med	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Palacios, Janelle	01/17/2018 07/06/2022	American Indian Health, Midwifery, Community-based research Online Technology, Mental/Behavioral Health	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Parent, Charlotte	09/30/2014 06/30/2018	Registered Nurse	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Peck, Magda	01/17/2018 07/06/2022	Applied Science, Organizational Change Expert, System Change Perinatal Periods of Risk Leadership Development	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pettiford, Belinda	01/17/2018 06/15/2022	NC Department of Hlth & Human Ser., Div of PH, Branch Head- Women's Health Branch	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Schumacher, Elizabeth	01/01/2015	U.S. Department of Labor	Ex Officio Member
Thundercloud, Alec	01/01/2015 01/01/2018	Clinical Director, India Hlth Ser Headquarters	Ex Officio Member
Warren, Michael	01/17/2018 12/31/2020	Titel V, Local & State Health Dept., Incoming AMCHP President, Chronic Disease, Nutrition, Health Promotion	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wise, Paul	01/17/2018 09/03/2022	Pediatrics International Health, Prematurity Research, Child Health Policy, Emergency Medicine Genetic	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Zycherman, Kristen	09/01/2018	Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services	Ex Officio Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 36

Narrative Description

Infant mortality, and low birth weight (LBW)/preterm birth (PTB) as major contributors to infant death, continue to be significant and costly health problems for this Nation. It is alarming that the rates of LBW and PTB continue to increase. Recommendations offered by the Committee with respect to content and coordination of programs to reduce infant mortality or improve the health of pregnant women and infants provide advice directly related to the HHS goals to: 1) improve quality of health services; 2) increase access for children; 3) eliminate health disparities; and 4) expand the knowledge base about underlying processes and factors associated with these health problems as well as interventions that will improve outcomes.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Committee has been instrumental in providing guidance for the strengthening of the Healthy Start program, a major Federal infant mortality reduction program; and advising about issues around or gaps in services, HHS programs, and research focused on preterm birth, infant mortality, and health disparities/health equity. More recently the Committee has worked to provide the Secretary with guidance and recommendations as the National Strategy to Address Infant Mortality is developed and operationalized.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000

Over \$10,000,000

Cost Savings Other

☐
☐
☐

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

30

Number of Recommendations Comments

The major focus of the Committee is to assist the HHS Interagency Coordinating Council on Low Birth Weight and Preterm Birth develop recommendations for a Department-wide research agenda on low birth weight and preterm birth. Attention was given to establishing priorities for the research recommendations and to identify in a letter to the Secretary that this recommended research be initiated by HHS. The Committee is also providing guidance and advice related to development and expansion of various MCH programs. The Committee submitted a framework for the National Strategy to Address Infant Mortality. This framework has 6 key components/recommendations. The Committee continues to operationalize each of these components and will continue to submit specific action-oriented recommendations to the Secretary.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

10%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The 24 research priorities have been identified and were recently sent to the Secretary. One of the recommendations has been initiated (support the Institute of Medicine's study on preterm birth) through the joint efforts of several HHS agencies, including HRSA. Meanwhile the Agency continues to address previous recommendations of the Committee that were not addressed in previous years. Pilot projects addressing systems delivery components contributing to variations in low birth weight continue to be funded.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

63%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Many recommendations presented by the committee have been partially implemented by the agency directly or in coordination with other agencies. For instance, the agency continues its work around maternal depression, funding projects in states as well as supporting the development of public education materials.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The Committee Chair, HRSA Administrator, Executive Secretary of the Committee, and the Director of the Division that administers the Healthy Start program (or their designees) provide updates at committee meetings, specifically addressing progress on recommendations or questions raised. In addition, speakers from relevant HHS agencies and programs are invited to present on emerging issues and strategies to keep Committee members apprised of changes or advances (many of these federal partners also serve as ex-officios of the Committee). For instance, HHS officials described the strategies being considered for addressing the escalating costs in the Medicaid program, and CDC officials discussed ideas for improving attention to preconception care, an intervention being promoted to improve the outcome of pregnancy. Agency staff updated the Committee on the quality health improvement efforts in HRSA's Perinatal and Patient Safety collaborative. In addition, feedback is provided by other agencies and organizations (including outside of HHS) as appropriate (i.e., Institute of Medicine staff who reported findings from Federally-supported studies on Preterm Birth and Impact of Prenatal Weight).

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Briefing books with meeting minutes and copies of presentations and relevant scientific materials are reproduced for Committee members and the public who attend each meeting. In addition, the agency shares summaries of subcommittee discussions by email with Committee members. HRSA also administers a website where relevant info is posted (<https://www.hrsa.gov/advisory-committees/infant-mortality/index.html>)